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**UnityPoint Health**

October 18, 2018

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Avery:

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of re-establishing the heart transplant program at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center. OSF HealthCare, its hospitals, physician offices and services within, have proven to be dedicated to this community and have added value to the lives of the patients who live here. I believe the heart transplant program will further enhance this.

As our population continues to increase and age, the demand for enhanced health care services, especially those for chronic conditions, will also increase. At UnityPoint Health – Central Illinois, we applaud and support the intent of OSF HealthCare to re-establish a heart transplant program at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center. Such a service will allow members of this community to receive the highest level of cardiovascular care right here in our own community. It will also prevent families from needing to travel long distances for a heart transplant.

The depth and breadth of the services offered by OSF HealthCare are vital to our community and help its members lead healthier, fuller lives.

As UnityPoint Health – Central Illinois, we look forward to this needed enhancement and its positive impact on our community.

Sincerely,

Deborah R. Simon  
Regional CEO

pc: Mark Hohulin, Senior Vice President Healthcare Analytics  
OSF healthcare  
800 NE Glen Oak Ave., Peoria, IL 61603